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OPG'S NANTICOKE STATION STOPS BURNING COAL OPG's energy mix now one of the cleanest in North America

Toronto - Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) Nanticoke Generating Station on Lake Erie burned its last piece of coal on Dec. 31, 2013. The company's Lambton station, near Sarnia, stopped coal-fired electricity production in September.

"Over the years, our staff ensured these plants were available when the province needed them. I want to thank them for their dedicated service, and thank the communities for their continued support," said Tom Mitchell, OPG President and Chief Executive Officer.

The closure of the province's two largest, coal-fired electricity generating plants means most of OPG's electricity production will come from nuclear and hydroelectric sources, making the company's energy mix one of the cleanest in North America. More than 95 per cent of the electricity produced by OPG will be carbon-free.

OPG's Atikokan Generating Station, northwest of Thunder Bay, stopped using coal in September 2012 and is being converted to use carbon-neutral biomass as fuel. It will be the largest 100-per cent biomass-fueled generating station in North America and is expected to be in service in mid-2014. OPG's Thunder Bay Generating Station will continue to use coal through 2014, when it will be converted to advanced biomass fuel.

These conversions will help OPG develop knowledge and expertise that can be exported around the world to enable cost-effective conversion of coal plants to renewable fuels.

The Lambton and Nanticoke generating units will be preserved so that they can be converted to alternate fuels in the future, if required.

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